

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a stereoscopic image set of images having a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision by a stereoscopic image generating apparatus, said method comprising:

a region extraction step of extracting left and right target regions which do not include a pair of fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image and identifying a more-~~inconspicuous~~ unclear region between the left and right target regions; and

a region processing step of carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the region identified in the region extraction step even more-~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the target regions.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a stereoscopic image set of images having a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision by a stereoscopic image generating apparatus, said method comprising:

a region extraction step of extracting left and right regions which do not include fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image which are displayed on a display plane; and

a region processing step of carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the regions extracted in the region extraction step even more-~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the regions.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images is a processing of blurring the region identified in the region extraction step.

5. (Previously Presented) The generating method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images is a processing of blurring the region identified in the region extraction step.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images is a processing of reducing contrast of the region identified in the region extraction step.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images is a processing of reducing contrast of the region identified in the region extraction step.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images is a processing of reducing saturation or brightness of the region identified in the region extraction step.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images is a processing of reducing saturation or brightness of the region identified in the region extraction step.

10. (Previously Presented) The generating method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images is a processing of bringing a hue of the region identified in the region extraction step to a cold color family.

11. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images is a processing of bringing a hue of the region identified in the region extraction step close to a cold color family.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images is a processing of bringing a hue, saturation or brightness of the region identified in the region extraction step close to a hue, saturation or brightness of the remaining regions of the target regions.

13. (Currently Amended) A stereoscopic image set of images having a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision, the stereoscopic image set of images being processed so as to make a more-~~inconspicuous~~ unclear region between left and right target regions which do not include fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image which are displayed on a display plane even more-~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the target regions.

14. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the processing of generating ~~a~~-the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make more ~~inconspicuous~~-unclear is one of or a combination of the following processings:

- (1) processing of blurring the region;
- (2) processing of reducing contrast of the region identified in the region extraction step;
- (3) processing of reducing saturation or brightness of the region identified in the region extraction step;
- (4) processing of bringing a hue of the region identified in the region extraction step close to a cold color family; and
- (5) processing of bringing a hue, saturation or brightness of the region identified in the region extraction step close to a hue, saturation or brightness of the remaining regions of the target regions.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the processing of generating a stereoscopic image set of images is one of or a combination of the following processings:

- (1) processing of blurring the region identified in the region extraction step;
- (2) processing of reducing contrast of the region identified in the region extraction step;
- (3) processing of reducing saturation or brightness of the region identified in the region extraction step;
- (4) processing of bringing a hue of the region identified in the region extraction step close to a cold color family; and
- (5) processing of bringing a hue, saturation or brightness of the region identified in the region extraction step close to a hue, saturation or brightness of the remaining regions of the target regions.

16. (Currently Amended) A stereoscopic image generating apparatus for generating a stereoscopic image set of images having a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision, said stereoscopic image generating apparatus comprising:

region extraction means of extracting left and right target regions which do not include a pair of fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image and identifying a more-~~inconspicuous~~ unclear region between the left and right target regions; and

a region processing means for carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the region identified in the region extraction step even more-~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the target regions.

17. (Currently Amended) A stereoscopic image generating apparatus for generating a stereoscopic image set of images having a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision, said stereoscopic image generating apparatus comprising:

a region extraction means of extracting left and right regions which do not include fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image which are displayed on a display plane; and

a region processing means of carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the regions extracted in the region extraction step even more ~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the regions.

18. (Currently Amended) A stereoscopic viewing method of watching a stereoscopic image set of images having a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision by a stereoscopic image generating apparatus, said stereoscopic viewing method comprising:

a region extraction step of extracting left and right target regions which do not include a pair of fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image and identifying a more ~~inconspicuous~~ unclear region between the left and right target regions; and

a region processing step of carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the region identified in the region extraction step even more ~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the target regions.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a stereoscopic image set of images having a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision by a stereoscopic image generating apparatus, said stereoscopic viewing method comprising:

a region extraction step of extracting left and right regions which do not include fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image which are displayed on a display plane; and

a region processing step of carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the processed regions extracted in the region extraction step even more ~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the regions.

20. (Currently Amended) A stereoscopic viewing apparatus for showing a stereoscopic image set of images having a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision, said stereoscopic viewing apparatus comprising:

region extraction means of extracting left and right target regions which do not include a pair of fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image and identifying a more ~~inconspicuous~~ unclear region between the left and right target regions; and

a region processing means for carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the region identified in the region extraction step even more ~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the target regions.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A apparatus~~ An apparatus for generating a stereoscopic image set of images having a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision, said apparatus comprising:

a region extraction means of extracting left and right regions which do not include fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image which are displayed on a display plane; and

a region processing means of carrying out processing of generating ~~the a~~ stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the regions extracted in the region extraction step even more ~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the regions.

22. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable medium storing a program for controlling a apparatus for generating a stereoscopic image set of images having

a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision, said program causing a stereoscopic image generating apparatus to execute:

a region extraction step of extracting left and right target regions which do not include a pair of fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image and identifying a more-~~inconspicuous~~ unclear region between the left and right target regions; and

a region processing step of carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the region identified in the region extraction step even more-~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the target regions.

23. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable medium storing a program for controlling an apparatus for generating a stereoscopic image set of images having a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision, said program causing said stereoscopic image generating apparatus to execute:

a region extraction step of extracting left and right regions which do not include fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image which are displayed on a display plane; and

a region processing step of carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the regions extracted in the region extraction step even more-~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the regions.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a stereoscopic image set of images which has a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision, and forms a virtual stereoscopic image by vergence angles generated from individual points corresponding in the left image and the right image by a stereoscopic image generating apparatus, said method comprising:

a region extraction step of extracting left and right target regions which do not include a pair of fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image and identifying a more ~~inconspicuous~~ unclear region between the left and right target regions;

a region processing step of carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the region identified in the region extraction step even more ~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the target regions; and

a vergence angle modifying step of increasing a stereoscopic effect by carrying out deformation processing of a left image and a right image of a stereoscopic image set of images which are prepared in advance to form the virtual stereoscopic image, by increasing or decreasing the vergence angles generated by the individual points of the stereoscopic image set of images according to a prescribed rule, and by altering a depth of the virtual stereoscopic image.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a stereoscopic image set of images which has a left image and a right image for stereoscopic vision, and forms a virtual stereoscopic image by vergence angles generated from individual points corresponding in the left image and the right image by a stereoscopic image generating apparatus, said method comprising:

a region extraction step of extracting left and right regions which do not include fused points corresponding to each other in the left image and the right image which are displayed on a display plane;

a region processing step of carrying out processing of generating the stereoscopic image set of images so as to make the regions extracted in the region extraction step even more ~~inconspicuous~~ unclear than the remaining regions of the regions; and

a vergence angle modifying step of increasing a stereoscopic effect by carrying out deformation processing of a left image and a right image of a stereoscopic image which are prepared in advance to form the virtual stereoscopic image, by increasing or decreasing the vergence angles generated by the individual points of the stereoscopic image set of images according to a prescribed rule, and by altering a depth of the virtual stereoscopic image.

26. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the unclear region comprises at least one of being out of focus, low contrast, running and sober tones.

27. (New) The stereoscopic image set of images as claimed in claim 13, wherein the unclear region comprises at least one of being out of focus, low contrast, running and sober tones.

28. (New) The stereoscopic image generating apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein the unclear region comprises at least one of being out of focus, low contrast, running and sober tones.

29. (New) The stereoscopic viewing method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the unclear region comprises at least one of being out of focus, low contrast, running and sober tones.

30. (New) The stereoscopic viewing apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the unclear region comprises at least one of being out of focus, low contrast, running and sober tones.

31. (New) The non-transitory computer readable medium as claimed in claim 22, wherein the unclear region comprises at least one of being out of focus, low contrast, running and sober tones.

32. (New) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the unclear region comprises at least one of being out of focus, low contrast, running and sober tones.